

# REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Advisor's Guide to personal growth and leadership development

Lesson Number: **RNH.1.4**

## Citizenship

### Purpose:

The purpose of this lesson is to introduce students to the concept of citizenship and their responsibilities as citizens in our society.

### Quick Reference:

#### Time Required:

50 minutes

#### Objectives:

After completing this lesson, students should be able to:

1. Define citizenship.
2. List and explain a citizen's responsibilities.
3. Describe their chapter's service learning projects.

#### Materials:

- ✓ RNH.1.4.AS.A – one per facilitator
- ✓ RNH.1.4.AS.B – one per student
- ✓ RNH.1.4.AS.C – one per facilitator

### Directions:

*The strength of any organization, association, community, or country is only as strong as the commitment of individuals who make up its entity. The more members are moved into action by their commitment, the greater the accomplishment by their collective efforts. An excellent way to get this across to students is to bring in a guest speaker to talk to them about voting or the political process or to bring in someone from the military who could talk to them about citizenship and service.*

1. Discuss with students the role of a leader.
  - a. Leaders serve as role models.
  - b. People look to leaders to see how they contribute to their community and/or organization and what leaders give their allegiance to.
  - c. One part of being a good leader is being a good citizen.
2. Ask students if they are citizens, and if so of what? (city, state, nation, etc.) What are some of the characteristics of a citizen? What are some benefits of a citizen versus a non-citizen?
3. Have students capture the definition of citizen and citizenship in their notes using RNH.1.4.AS.A.
4. Ask students to come up with a list of responsibilities of a citizen. Following is an example list to use with students to get them going.
  - a. Voting
  - b. Paying taxes





- c. Serving on juries
  - d. Abiding by the laws of society
  - e. Becoming a contributing member of society
  - f. Respecting the rights and views of others
5. Tell students that FFA members contribute to the betterment of their communities through service learning projects. Provide students with examples of your local chapter and brainstorm a new list to see what students want to do to reach out to their community.
  6. Distribute RNH.1.4.AS.C and have students complete the worksheet.

### Connection Questions:

1. Describe two or three citizens in your community that you believe exemplify what an outstanding citizen should be.
2. What are some areas that you could serve your community and contribute as a citizen?
3. What service project could you help contribute to in your chapter or hometown to make a difference in your community?

#### LifeKnowledge Connections

##### Precept(s) Addressed:

Awareness

- E1. Address issues important to the community.
- E2. Perform leadership tasks associated with citizenship.

##### LK Lesson Suggestion:



AHS.42 – Responsible Citizenship



# Defining Citizen and Citizenship

**Citizen:** “An inhabitant of a city or town, especially one entitled to the rights and privileges of a freeman; a member of a state; a native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection from it.”

**Citizenship:** “The status of being a citizen; membership in a community; the quality of an individual’s response to membership in a community.”

*From Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition.*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Find and circle the following words in the puzzle:

• citizen • vote • taxes • jury • service • responsible • respect • city • county • state • country

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# Word Search - Key

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